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~~SECRET~~ PBSUCCESS RYBAT

MAY 21 1954

LINCOLN

Chief of Station, Guatemala [ ]

KUGOWN Operational Report - ESSENCE

1. Attached is an operational report from Eliot P. RAZMARA concerning ESSENCE activities.
2. Paragraph 3 contains information regarding a jurisdictional matter that you may be able to clarify from your end. Meanwhile RAZMARA has been urged to pour oil on the troubled waters and counsel patience in the face of these occasional misunderstandings. Closer coordination on such matters would be helpful.
3. The subject of paragraph 5 has stated certain conditions of employment that you may not wish to meet. Please advise by cable if you are still interested in this individual. (Previous reference: GUAT 506).
4. You have already complied with the request contained in paragraph 7 and no further action is required at this time.
5. In connection with paragraph 8, we repeat our previous conclusion that the Chiquimula conflict has been largely isolated and does not appear to be the pretext and forerunner of nation wide suppression of the opposition. There is no evidence on hand to support the allegation that fifty (50) anti-communists were arbitrarily liquidated without trial.
6. A following report states that ESSENCE reversed his field without warning and decided to print the "32" articles in El Rebelde after withdrawing them as stated in paragraph 11.
7. Paragraphs 12 through 24 are self explanatory and require no comment.

MAY 20 1954

Attachment: operational report

George L. Tranger

GLT/sgl

Distribution:

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1-[ ] w/att

17 May 1954

SUBJECT: Meeting Between CARTER and ALBERTO

1. A meeting occurred between Oscar H. CARTER and ALBERTO on Saturday night, 15 May.

2. The government pressure against "El Rebelde", CEUA, and the anti-Communist filiales throughout the country is having the effect of spreading fear through the ranks of the anti-Communists. Particularly is this true of the workers on "El Rebelde" and in CEUA since the police interrogation following seizure of the "El Rebelde" issues. The secretary has announced that she is quitting at the end of the month, and others have indicated an unwillingness to continue lending their time and presence to the work.

3. [ ] was left in charge of "El Rebelde" and CEUA when [ ] left for Mexico. ANABELA has by-passed [ ] and written directly to Cayo Quiñonez and Ubico (fmu), both young students of around 17 years of age, in connection with the projected Mexican anti-Communist Congress and indicating to these two youths that in this matter they can ignore the opinions of [ ] This has had the effect of infuriating [ ] who states that it undermines his position in the organization, as well as gives the impression that ANABELA has more confidence in these 17 year olds than in him. Furthermore, should trouble develop out of such communications or the actions resulting therefrom, it is not these minors who will have to answer to the police, but [ ] who will suffer under any questioning and torture. [ ] wanted to quit working, but CARTER managed to calm him down. This matter has also confused CARTER, who does not understand why ANABELA is risking the security and harmony of the organization in this matter, and which also seems somewhat out of his jurisdiction.

4. \$100.00 has been offered through ANABELLA to each person who makes the trip to Mexico. This money is for expenses above fares, passports, etc. Many persons are demanding this money now so they can begin to get clothes, and whatever else they will need. This is creating dissatisfaction when they are told the money will be given them when they are ready to leave and all plans have been made.

5. [ ] has informed CARTER that he is willing to go to New York and work, but under the following conditions: a) that this time outside the country will not be more than one or one and a half months, and b) that he will be able to return when he wants to - i.e. - that he will not have to do anything that will endanger his ability to return safely to Guatemala. These conditions are explained as follows: the time length - [ ] is a "vocal" (probably equivalent to an alderman) in the Guatemala City government, he has [ ] [ ] he is an employee of the [ ] [ ] and he has a family. Hence he is more or less in the public eye / that is, he could not disappear from the local scene for any reasonable length of time (natural for a vacation) without arousing suspicions; as to the ability to return safely - this is brought on by the Tehron case and the government charges that a radio technician, out of the country on a tourist visa, is in Honduras or one of the other nearby countries connected with Castillo Armas - also the people are mentioning the fact that José Tehron has been heard on the clandestine radio. This means that Tehron cannot safely return to Guatemala at the present time, and [ ] does not want to find himself in the same condition. ]

6. However, it is possible that once [ ] is outside Guatemala and becomes aware of the extent of the opposition and its intentions and capabilities, he may not insist on the above conditions.

7. It is CARTER's suggestion that Tehron write his family, his novia, and his employer or business partner, José Monteros, - the letters to be mailed from the United States, and in which he describes his "touristic" impressions or some harmless sentiments along the same lines. These letters will undoubtedly be opened by the government, and may serve to allay government suspicions and prevent any serious interrogations of those persons who were associates of Tehron's here in Guatemala. In the letter to Monteros he can mention the fact that he is continuing to look for programs for their radio, or that he has learned some new techniques for use in their programs, etc. Anything which might serve to cast some doubt among the government as to the completeness or veracity of their beliefs concerning his whereabouts and his activities.

8. Reports received from Chiquimula state that the situation is exceedingly grave. Using the affair as a pretext, the government is going full blast to break up completely the anti-Communist net-work there, stating that these people are serving Castillo Armas and are traitors. The fear among the people there is enormous. A great many are in flight or hiding in the area in the mountains or at ranches. Some 15 or 16 passed through Guatemala City Friday or Saturday, begging for assistance (money, etc.) to enable them to continue their flight. They report that the government has shot on the spot at capture some 50 anti-Communists, giving them no trial or any chance to refute charges of treason. This was an area strongly organized by the group, but CARTER states that it appears the whole backbone of the movement there is in danger of being completely broken.

9. Baltasar Morales, director of "El Espectador", in talking with a group from APG (Asociación de Periodistas de Guatemala) said that he had heard from several sources that a submarine from a country behind the iron curtain had entered Puerto Barrios and unloaded arms. The newspaper men were all agreed that none of their newspapers would dare print such news because of fear of the government.

10. CARTER states merely as a matter of warning that Oscar Conde (radio or newspaper man) has stated on several occasions that he is a very good friend of Cruz Wer and that he owes Cruz Wer various favors. Conde is an anti-Communist, but CARTER suggests the above be kept in mind whenever the group decides to make use of Conde. (or should the group decide to make use of him)

11. CARTER is bringing out volantes of the cartoon related to the clandestine radio. No answer as yet has been received from the newspapers with regard as to whether they will publish the "Fobia al 32" articles. This Fobia article was coming out in "El Rebelde", but following the seizure by the police, CARTER had the article withdrawn.

12. CARTER suggests that the clandestine radio program be more harsh than it is in its broadcasts - carry more positive threats. This does not mean the use of foul language, jokes, invectives - but the use of the same kind of demagogery that the Communists use to stir up the people. The Communists have told the people that if the landowners resist them in the redistribution of lands, kill them. The clandestine radio should advise the people that such and

such an article in the Constitution gives to every citizen the right to defend himself with any means at his disposal - urge them to prepare themselves, to resist, etc. When the program is going to contain an attack against an individual, make sure that that individual is presently in enough of the lime-light so every one will know of him and have an interest.

13. In matters such as that of stating that 1954 will be the year of change - don't make statements that will give the people the impression that things are still far from ready, or that they will have to wait for a long time. 1954 still has six months to go, and this type statement will decrease the people's eagerness and spirit if they think they have to suffer through possibly a considerable time before anything happens. The people's spirits or interest cannot be sustained at a high pitch for any great length of time.

14. Although CARTER is trying to get the "32" articles printed in the papers, he is of the opinion that should his efforts fail, the non-publication will not affect the group seriously. "32" has caught on all over the country - it has touched some natural response within the people - their love for the mysterious, romantic, or anti-government display. These articles will in great part take away from the people their sense of thrill, of participating in the unexplained. It will be anti-climatical.

15. In San Marcos, one of the furthest points from the capital, the citizens have painted at least 50 "32's" on the freshly painted house of a doctor there whom they consider Communist. Because of a warning from government forces at the time of the last presidential elections, the doctor made no contribution to the Ydigoras Fuentes campaign. Word was then spread that the doctor was a Communist. As soon as he had finished painting his house, the people then completely marked it with "32's" to express their disapproval of the doctor's supposed Communist leanings.

16. CARTER is somewhat uneasy at approaching Monteros of Radio Internacional concerning replacing the equipment destroyed, and enough to provide for a stand-by. This uneasiness is caused by the Tohron business and the government's statement concerning the local technician. CARTER believes that if the material for broadcasting which is to be passed along to Monteros is too strong, the government will fall upon Monteros, connecting him with the outside opposition, and through Monteros the trail will lead to others, including possibly CARTER.

17. A Coronel Santos (fnu) (juvilado - retired?) stated that the house of Carlos M. Pellecer possibly contains arms. This house is situated in the Avenida Juan Chapin, and at one side was a radio emisora, and in front of which is the Juegos Infantiles. The house has a garage with a wide door. Large boxes, which from their size and shape possibly contained arms, have been seen being taken into the garage. The Coronel also states that in conversation with another army colonel (name unknown), the other reports that among the high ranking officers (oficialidad alta) there are many in favor of the group.

18. The house of Jorge Toriello, Confederación de Trabajadores, 9 C. and 11 Av., El Cañon, is reported as also containing arms. CARTER states that he does not put too much faith in this report because it can be merely popular gossip growing out of association of ideas.

19. [ brother of [ J of the Escuela Politécnica, is reportedly sympathetic to our cause. On several occasions he has given information, related to "judiciales", etc., to persons connected with the group. [ J is retired from the army now, but he continues drawing a salary.

20. Coronel Jesus Mario de León (juvilado - retired?) says that he has spoken with various Guardias Civiles and they have told him that the day that anything happens all those who can will desert.

21. Many of the military personnel who are not on the active list (no están de alta) have indicated that they are ready to fight for the opposition if they are notified.

22. Gloria Castillo, leader of the market women, is going to Honduras shortly. It is not known who is sending her.

23. The Comité Reivindicación Nacional letters are arriving at their destinations. A Guardia Civil and a Guardia Judicial, talking with a military person, asked him if he was familiar with the letters. He said yes, that he had received one, and was filling it out because the situation was ugly and it was necessary to be prepared.

24. The next meeting between CARTER and ALBERTO is scheduled for Monday night, 17 May.

[ ]  
ALBERTO